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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

STRENGTHEN BULGARIAN BORDER FORTIFICATIONS;
SABOTAGE REPORTED AT PLANTS

GROUND UNITS MASSED ALONG BORDERS -- Paris, Rideau de Fer, 25 Apr 52

Informed sources confirm that the gatherings of troops along the Bulgarian borders (Yugoslav, Greek, and Turkish), as well as the military control of these regions along the Bulgarian borders by the Soviets is being constantly intensified. Soviet leaders in Bulgaria have massed ground units completely equipped and ready for combat along the borders of the non-Satellite countries by having them pass for border-guard formations. These border zones, thus prepared for war, are purely military in character. They reach 60 and, at some places, even 80 and 100 kilometers into the interior of Bulgaria. Since 1949, the population in these zones has been moved toward the center of Bulgaria, and militia families and party members in charge of a secret border-guard mission were settled in the defense areas.

Every inhabitant of the border zone has a special permit to live in it. Persons cannot enter these zones without a special pass. Control brigades are stationed at important points, such as railroad stations, bridges, and highway crossings. The passes of trains, automobiles, and the passengers, as well as those of pedestrians are checked everywhere. There is a curfew in the border zone, after which no one must be seen in the open. Two kilometers before the border itself, one crosses the "death zone" where are posted the following notices: "The border is 2 kilometers from here; a person will be shot without warning."

Border posts are located 5 to 7 kilometers from one another and each consists of 35 to 60 border guards. A certain distance from the border posts, border patrols consisting of two guards walk their posts with dogs. At nightfall, the border patrols are strengthened. Forested border regions have been cleared of trees 500 meters from the border. Certain places have barbed-wire fences. This guarding of the border is inspected and organized by Soviet experts.

- 1 -

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BULGARIAN SALTWORKS SABOTAGED -- Istanbul, Cumhuriyet, 10 Apr 52

Edirne, 9 April -- Reports leaking from behind the Iron Curtain indicate that new sabotage incidents recently have occurred in Bulgaria. At the Pomoriye saltworks, the covers of four basins containing crystallized salt were opened to allow sea water to fill the basins. Eighty workers suspected of being implicated in the affair were arrested and sent to an unknown destination.

A second incident occurred at the copper ingot smelting plant in the vicinity of Eliseyna, where one of the crucibles was ripped apart and made unusable. The plant is reportedly guarded by Communists, who have fortified points in the neighborhood.

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- 2 -

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